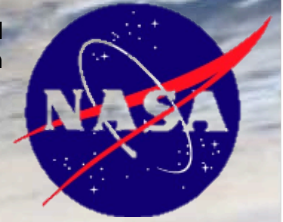


National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration



# **Small Satellite Conference 2015**

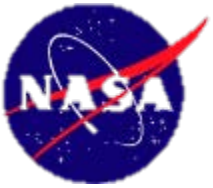
# **NASA Town Hall Meeting**

**Hosted by the  
Small Spacecraft Technology Program**

**August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015**



# NASA Town Hall Meeting



- **Introduction** Andrew Petro, Program Executive, STMD
- **Small Spacecraft Technology** – Andres Martinez, Program Manager
  - Smallsat Technology Partnerships - Selections for 2015
  - Pathfinder RFI and Tipping Point NRA
  - Upcoming Demonstration Missions
  - State of the Art Report - Update
- **SMD/STMD Joint Study** – Charles D. Norton, JPL
- **CubeQuest Challenge** – Eric Eberly, Deputy Program Manager, Centennial Challenges
- **Cubesat Launch Initiative** – Garret Skrobot, Mission Manager
- **Flight Opportunities** – Ron Young, Flight Opportunities Program Manager
- **Small Class Launch Site** – Jerad Merbitz, Operations Manager
- **Q&A, Feedback and Dialog**



# Smallsat Technology Partnerships

## 2015 Selections



### COMMUNICATIONS

#### **High Data Rate Ka-Band Software Defined Radio for Small Satellites**

University Of Vermont, Burlington & Worcester Polytechnic Institute

PI: Tian Xia NASA Collaborator: Wai Fong, GSFC

#### **Miniaturized Phonon Trap Timing Units for Cubesats**

University Of Michigan, Ann Arbor

PI: Mina RaiesZadeh NASA Collaborator: Serhat Altunc, GSFC

#### **Integrated Solar Panel and Antenna Array for Cubesats**

Utah State University

PI: Reyhan Baktur NASA Collaborator: Serhat Altunc, GSFC

### **SIMPLE, LOW-COST DEORBIT**

#### **Solid-State Inflation Balloon Active Deorbiter**

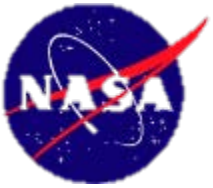
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

PI: Po-Hao NASA Collaborator: Elwood Agasid, ARC



# Smallsat Technology Partnerships

## 2015 Selections



### **ATTITUDE CONTROL**

#### **Film-Evaporation Reaction Control System Small Spacecraft**

Purdue University

PI: Alina Alexeenko NASA Collaborator: Eric Cardiff, GSFC

#### **Propellantless Attitude Control of Solar Sails Using Reflective Control Devices**

University of Maryland, College Park

PI: Jeremy Munday NASA Collaborator: Tiffany Russell, MSFC

### **POWER AND THERMAL CONTROL**

#### **Small Spacecraft Integrated Power System with Active Thermal Control**

University Of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

PI: Alexander Ghosh NASA Collaborator: Elwood Agasid, ARC

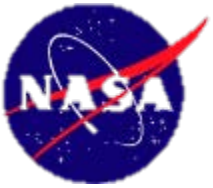
#### **Active CryoCubeSat**

Utah State University

PI: Charles Swenson NASA Collaborator: A.J. Mastropietro, JPL



# Pathfinder Technology Demonstrator Request for Information (RFI)



Solicitation Number: NNA15ZPX001L - **Responses Due August 18, 2015**

<https://www.fbo.gov/spg/NASA/ARC/OPDC20220/NNA15ZPX001L/listing.html>

NASA is interested in a spaceflight-qualified 6U cubesat spacecraft bus to be operated by NASA for its Pathfinder Technology Demonstrations to accommodate propulsion and other new technology payloads.

## Tipping Point Research Announcement

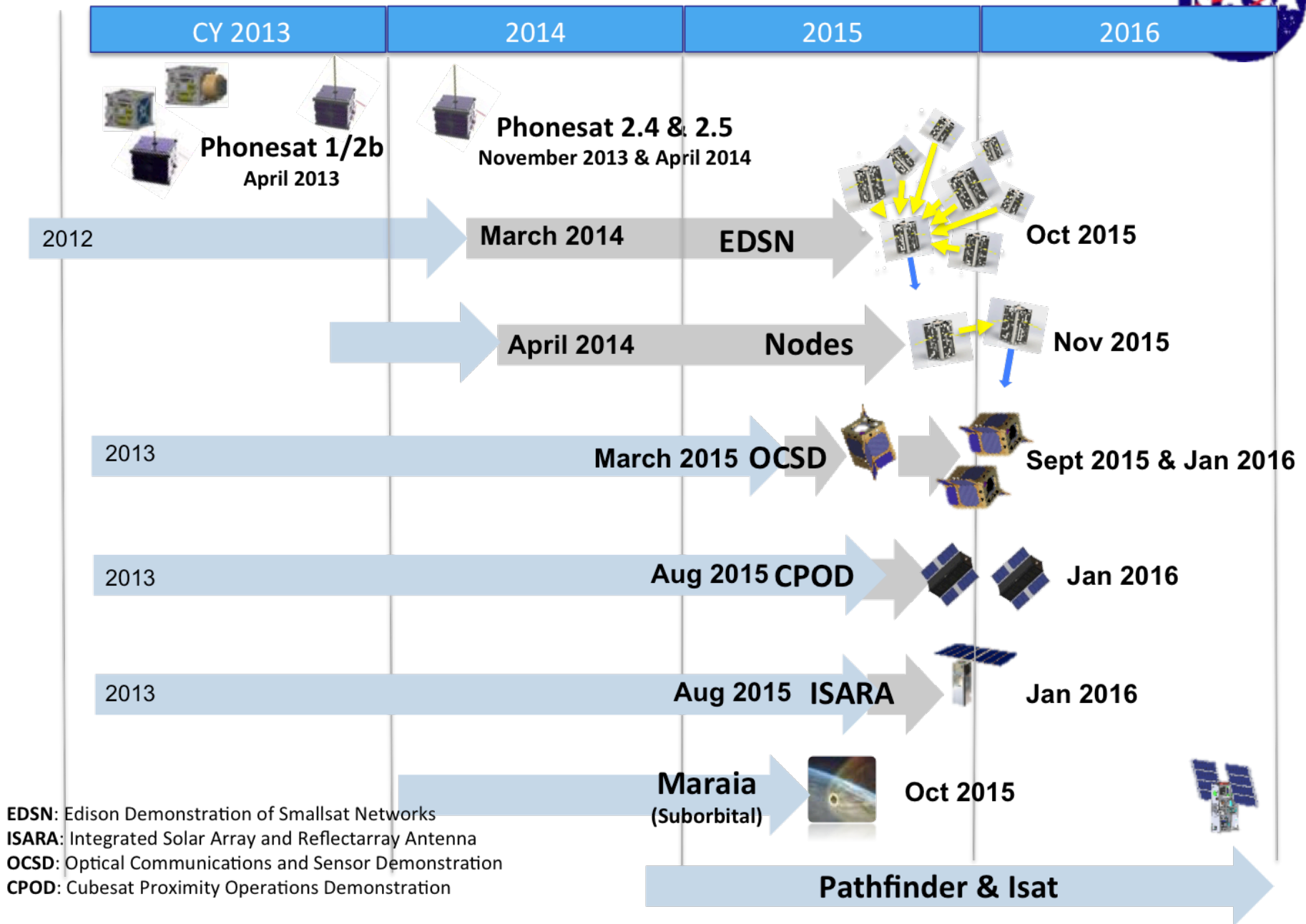
**Closed August 3, 2015**

Topics Include:

- Small Spacecraft Propulsion
- Attitude Determination and Control for Small Spacecraft
- Low Size, Weight and Power Instruments



# Small Spacecraft Technology – Flight Demonstrations





# Small Spacecraft Technology - State of the Art Update Underway



**Technology Domains:** Power; Propulsion; ADCS; GNC; Thermal Systems; Structure, Materials & Mechanisms; C&DH, Communications; TT&C; Software; Integration, Launch & Deployment; Ground Systems & Operations; Deorbit Systems

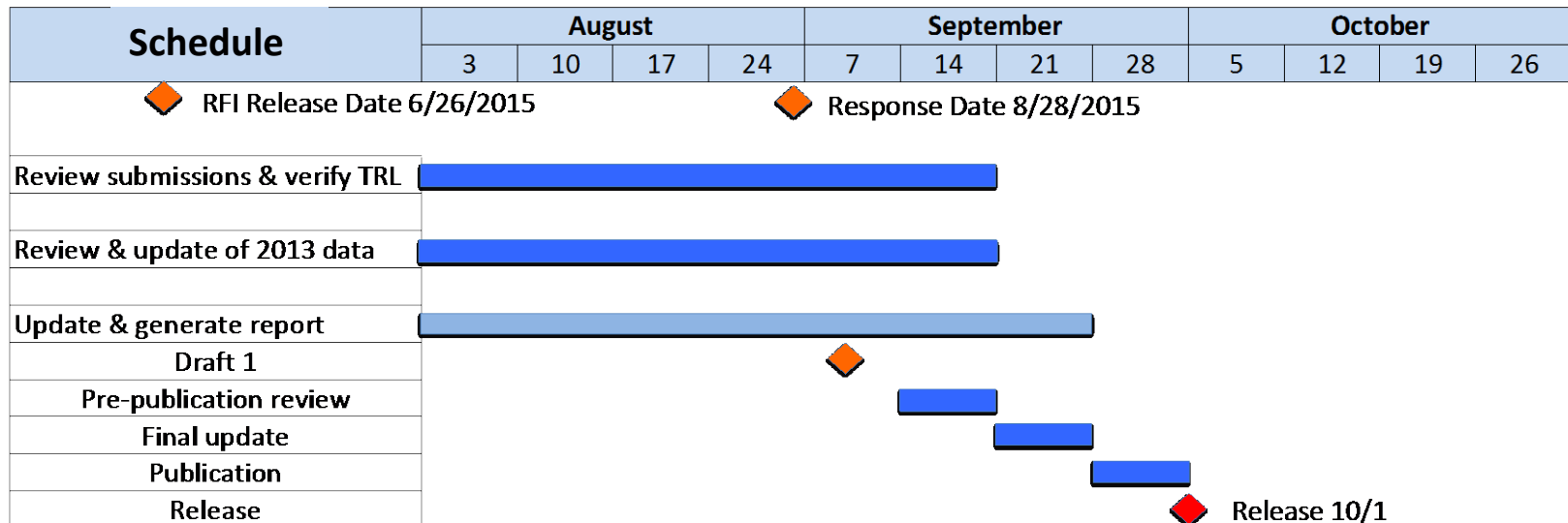
- Desk research – NASA Ames Engineering
- Outreach to Small Spacecraft Community
  - Academia: peer-to-peer networking
  - Industry RFI – **Responses due Aug 28, 2015**



[www.nasa.gov/smallsats](http://www.nasa.gov/smallsats)

Submit responses via email to [umetria.y.thomas@nasa.gov](mailto:umetria.y.thomas@nasa.gov)

<https://www.fbo.gov/spg/NASA/ARC/OPDC20220/NNA15ZRD001L/listing.html>





# Objective of The NASA SMD/STMD Joint SmallSat Study



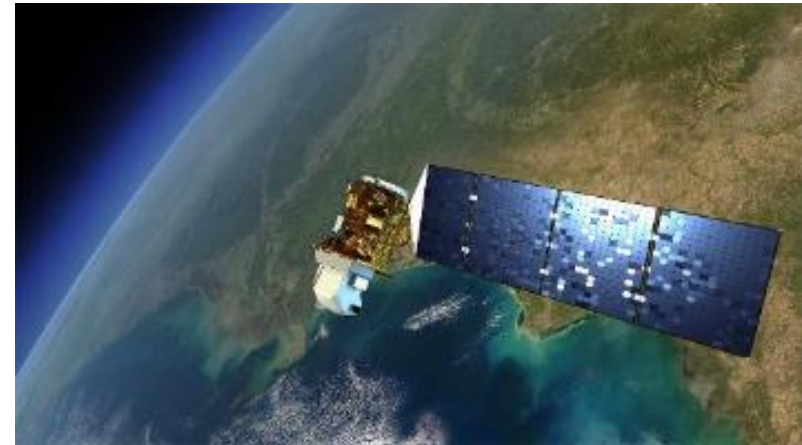
To explore alternative paradigms for key SMD science measurement requirements

Identify new paradigms where strategic science objectives might be achieved using novel SWaP instruments, coupled with small platforms and innovative mission architectures, provided current technology gaps are overcome

Study is organized into 5 distinct tasks

- Survey SOA for platforms and mission architectures
- Survey emerging capabilities
- Identify potential new paradigms
- Perform mission concept studies for candidate science measurements
- Deliver final report in 2016

Includes Heliophysics, Astrophysics, Planetary Science and Earth Science with RFI for community input in development



**LandSat 8**

**Launch Mass:** 2,071 kg

**Instruments:** Operational Land Imager (9 bands + panchromatic) and Thermal Infrared Sensor (2 bands)

**Spectral Resolution:** 15-100 meters (pending frequency)

**Development to Launch:** 2002 - 2013

**Manufacturers:** GSFC, Ball Aerospace, Orbital Sciences



# Potential of Small Satellite Measurements



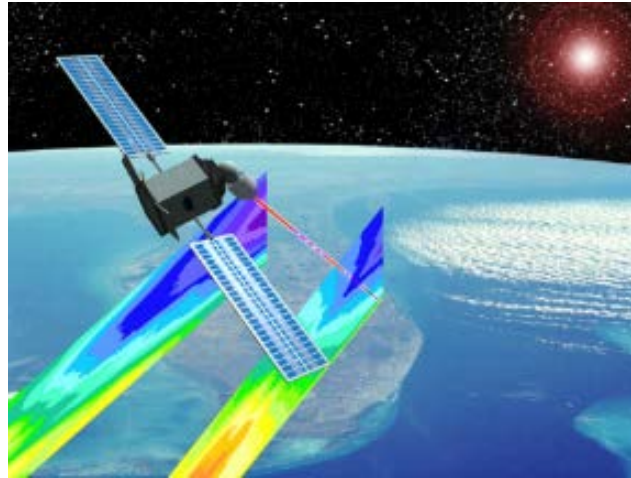
## An alternative architecture to obtain global 3D wind measurements?

2007 NRC Decadal Survey identifies  
3D tropospheric wind  
measurements as  
“transformational” for NWP

Significant challenges remain to  
deliver an operational global 3D  
Lidar winds mission at an  
acceptable cost

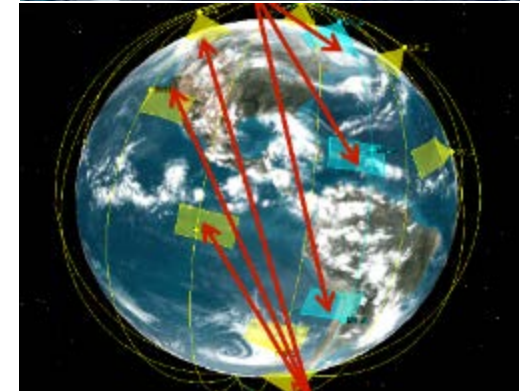
The proposed “MISTiC Winds”  
approach is to use a series of low-  
cost micro-satellites in a string of  
pearls constellation to provide  
global tropospheric IR profiles of  
temperature and humidity at high  
resolution

The rapid refresh rates from the  
constellation would enable global  
3D winds from the troposphere



Recent Concept: Global Wind Observing  
Sounder (GWOS)

Would consist of a coherent aerosol  
Doppler receiver with a direct detection  
molecular Doppler receiver



Midwave IR Sounding of Temperature  
and Humidity in a Constellation (MISTiC)  
Winds

27U Instrument on ESPA Constellation  
in LEO may offer lower cost/risk than  
alternatives

PI: Kevin Maschoff (BAE Systems)



# The NRC Achieving Science Goals With CubeSats Study



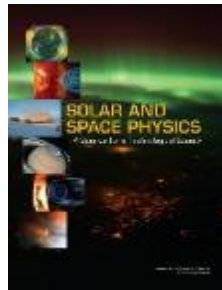
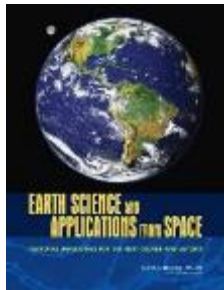
## Key elements of charge to the committee

Review the current state of scientific potential and technological promise of CubeSats

Review the potential of CubeSats as platforms for obtaining high-priority science data

- From recent decadal surveys
- Science priorities from 2014 NASA science plan

Provide a set of recommendations on how to assure scientific return on future federal agency support of CubeSat programs





# The NRC Achieving Science Goals With CubeSats Study



## Committee Actions

Develop summary of status, capability, availability and accomplishments in government, academic and industrial sectors

Recommend any potential near-term investments that could be made to

- Improve the capabilities that have a high impact and return
- Enable the science communities' use of CubeSats

Identify a set of sample priority science goals that describe near-term science opportunities

Completion expected in Spring 2016

September 2-3 Symposium, Beckman Center, Irvine CA:

[http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/CurrentProjects/SSB\\_160539](http://sites.nationalacademies.org/SSB/CurrentProjects/SSB_160539)





# CubeQuest Challenge Overview



The objective of the Cube Quest Challenge is to design, build, and deliver flight-qualified, small satellites capable of advanced operations near and beyond the moon.

- **Lunar Derby Prizes**

Achieve Lunar Orbit  
*\$1M max per team*

Error-free Communication

Burst Rate

Total Volume

Longevity (*Orbit maintenance needed*)

**1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize**

\$1.5M (*shared*,

\$225k/25k

\$675k/75k

\$450k/50k

- **Deep Space Derby Prizes**

Error-free Communication

Burst Rate

Total Volume

Longevity (*no maintenance needed*)

Distance

\$225k/\$25k

\$675k/\$75k

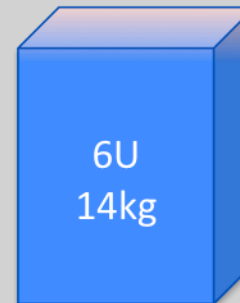
\$225k/\$25k

\$225k/\$25k

- **Ground Tournament (GT) Prizes**

- 4 Rounds
- Approximately every 6 months
- Top 5 teams receive incremental funding (max \$100k per team)
- Culminates with top 3 teams launching on EM-1

Foster innovation in small spacecraft propulsion and communications techniques



CubeSat limited to 6U volume and 14 kg mass

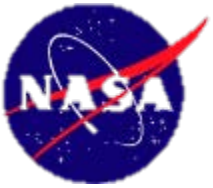
**\$5.5M Allocated Prize Money**

On the web:

Challenge: [www.nasa.gov/cubequest](http://www.nasa.gov/cubequest)  
Program: [www.nasa.gov/winit](http://www.nasa.gov/winit)



# Current Competitor List



## Industry

**Alpha CubeSat**  
*Xtraordinary Innovative  
Space Partnerships, Inc.*

**Novel Engineering**  
*Novel Engineering Inc.*

**Ragnarok Industries**  
*Ragnarok Industries, Inc.*

**Team Miles**  
*Fluid & Reason LLC*

**True Vision Robotics**  
*Isakson Engineering*

## University

**Cislunar Explorers**  
*Cornell University*

**HuskySat**  
*University of Washington*

**OpenOrbiter Lunar I**  
*University of North Dakota*

**MIT KitCube**  
*Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology*

**ERAU Eagles**  
*Embry-Riddle  
Aeronautical University*

**SEDS UC San Diego**  
*University of California –  
San Diego*

**Lunar CubeQuestador**  
*Missouri University of Science and  
Technology*

## High School

**Project Selene**  
*Flintridge Preparatory School*

**Lunar Derby**  
**Deep Space Derby**  
**Lunar & Deep Space Derby**

Plus 2 new teams for GT-2!  
Registration is still OPEN

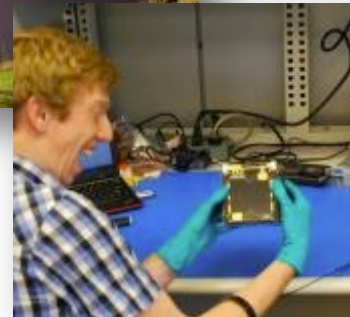
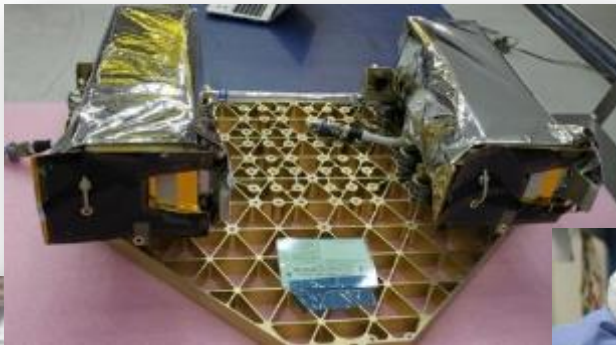




# What's going on!

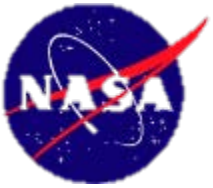


**“ELaNa is moving forward, launching CubeSat missions for CubeSat Launch Initiative (CLSI) and Science Projects!”**





# ELaNa and CSLI Score Card



## CubeSat Launch Initiative Missions

Selected	Awaiting Manifest	Manifested	Launched	ELaNa Missions Launched
106	54	15	38	9

## Total U-Class Payloads (Cubes) Readiness

2015	2016	2017	2018
15	28	10	1

## CSLI Announcement of Flight Opportunity 2015

Release Date: August 7, 2015

Response Date: November 24, 2015

NAIS website

<https://prod.nais.nasa.gov/cgibin/eps/bizops.cgi?gr=D&pin=04#166762>

FedBizOpps.gov Website

[https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=c3197fa9ee4773efc7555909dec6c7af&tab=core&\\_cview=1](https://www.fbo.gov/index?s=opportunity&mode=form&id=c3197fa9ee4773efc7555909dec6c7af&tab=core&_cview=1)



# **ELaNa and CSLI – Developing the Tool Box**



## **- Commercial Brokers**

- Work with the Commercial broker to secure launches for small payloads as primaries or secondaries**
- First request for Commercial Broker's proposals are in review for an award this FY**

## **- FAA Small Launch Services**

- Venture Class Launch Services are underway to procure a launch service to deliver up to 60kg of CubeSats to Orbit by April 2018**
- Dedicated Small Launch Vehicle for those missions with unique orbital requirements**

## **- ISS Deployments**

- Contract in place where NASA can procure ISS UCP deployment slots from the ISS through NanoRacks**



# Space Technology Mission Directorate Flight Opportunities Program



*Virgin Galactic*



*Up Aerospace*



*Masten Space Systems*



*World View Enterprises*

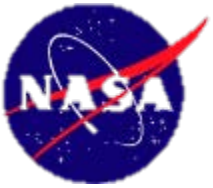


*Near Space Corporation*

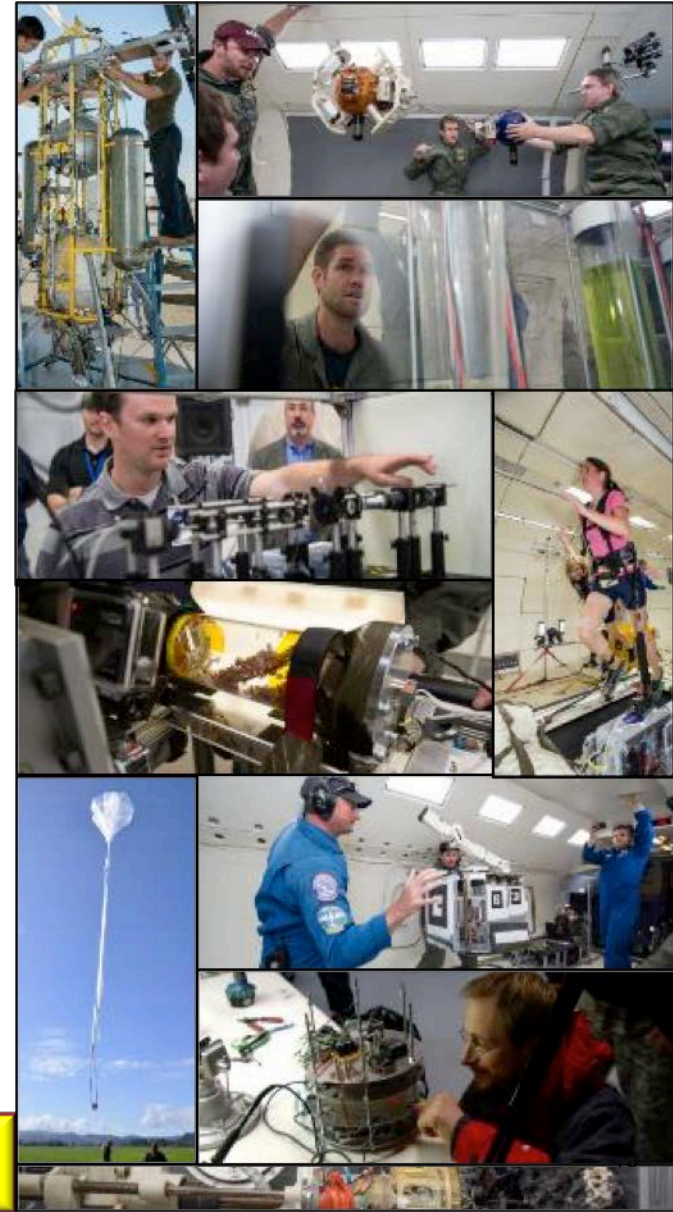
- **Mission**
  - Utilize Commercial Flight Opportunities to Facilitate Rapid Development of Space Technology in support of STMD
- **Our Top-Level Objectives**
  - Facilitate the maturation of technology payloads to higher TRL's through flights that simulate relevant space environments on parabolic, balloon, suborbital reusable launch vehicles (sRLV), and orbital platforms.
  - Foster growth in the emerging commercial suborbital and orbital platforms



# Payload Solicitation (Next Opportunity Opens Fall 2015)



- “Hands-Off” Technology Demonstration Partnerships with Technology Developers
- Funding Available for Flight and Standard Payload Integration Costs
  - Up to \$250K for Payload Integration/Flight
  - Up to \$50K for Payload Preparation and Other Costs
  - Awardees to purchase flights on their own from U.S. commercial flight vendors
- STMD NASA Research Announcement REDDI-15 Appendix F1
  - Topic 1: Demonstration of Space Technology Payloads
  - Topic 2: Demonstration of Vehicle Capability Enhancements and Onboard Research Facilities for Payload Accommodation



**Details at <http://goo.gl/KGHmyz>**



# Small Class Launch Site - Pad 39C Location

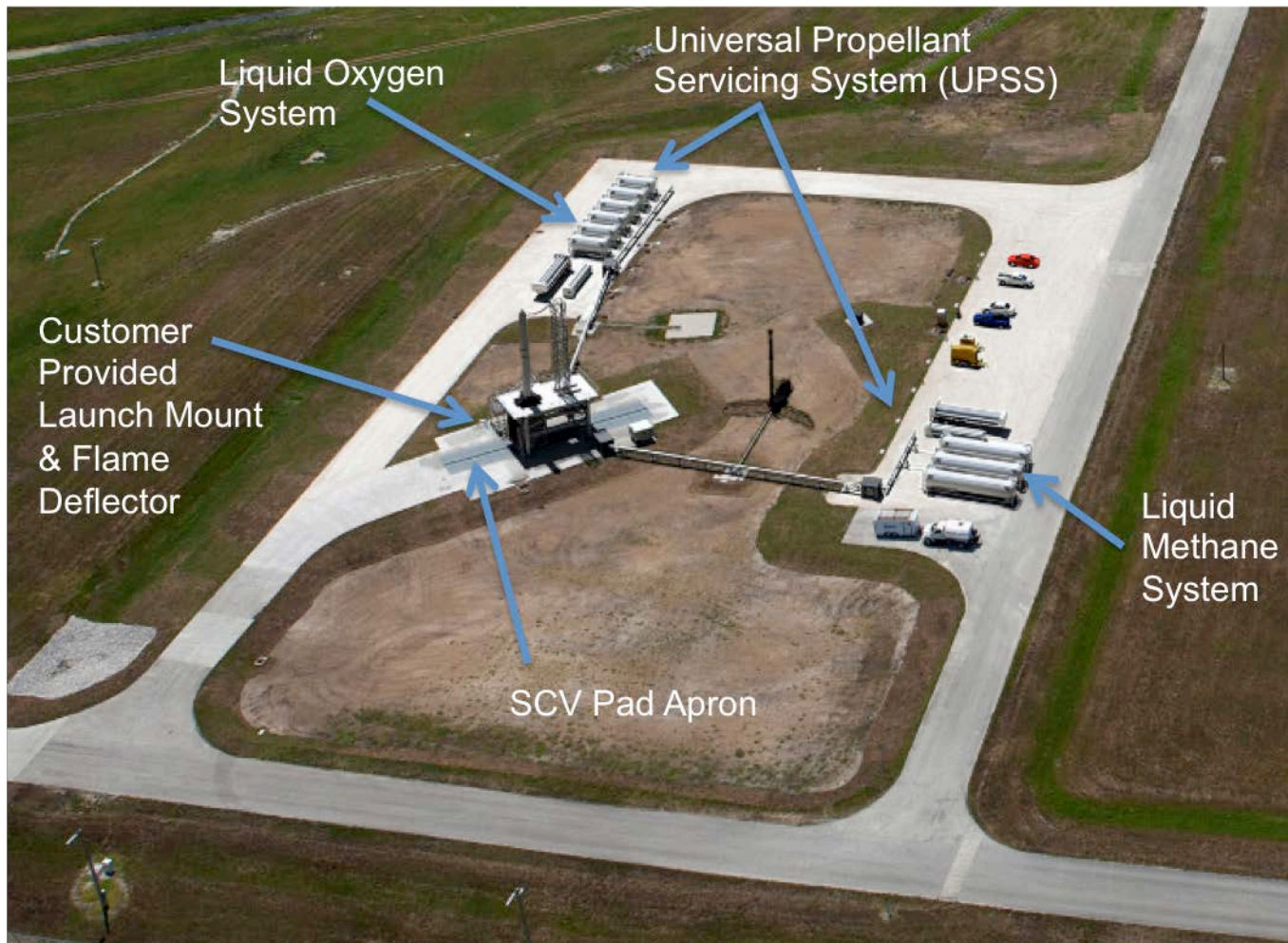


*LC-39B location*





# Pad 39C Launch Site Architecture



- ◆ Pad surface was designed to handle 200,000 lbs of thrust, but can potentially handle more based on the design weight of vehicle, respective GSE, fuel, payload, etc.
- ◆ Capability analysis will be performed for each commercial customer

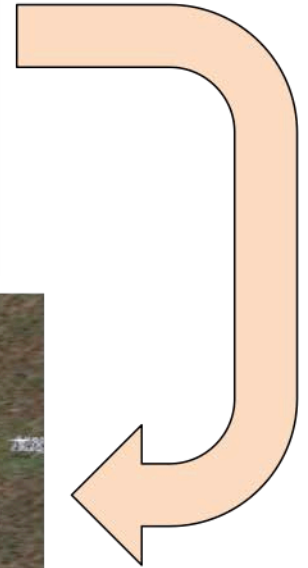


# Concept of Operations: Clean Pad



## ◆ Clean Pad Integration (components customer provided) → Launch

- Customer transport vehicle to launch site on flatbed equipped with vehicle erector
- Vehicle erector erects vehicle on launch mount/flame deflector
- For liquid engine vehicles, cryogenic propellant servicing would be provided via UPSS



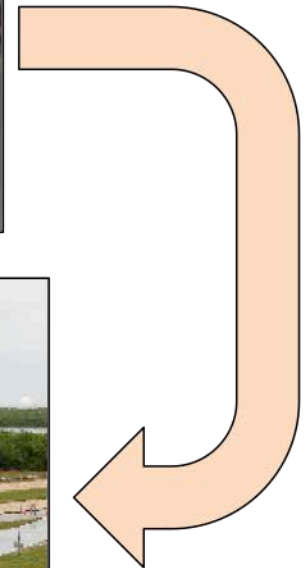
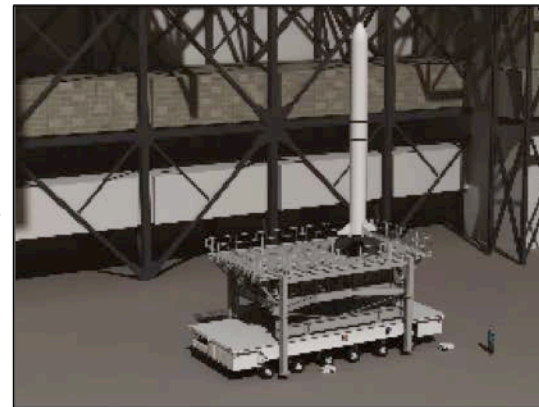
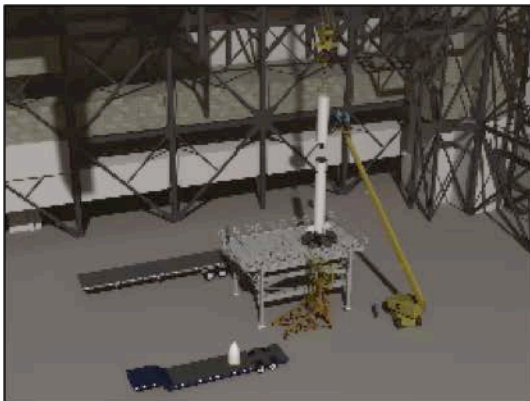


# Concept of Operations: VAB Integration



## ◆ Vehicle Integration in the VAB → Rollout → Launch

- Vehicle processing and integration with the DLS in a VAB highbay by use of cranes/scaffolding
- Rollout to the Pad B SCV launch site via KAMAG Transporter
- For liquid engine vehicles, connection to the UPSS would occur once rollout and set up is complete at Pad B





A photograph of a satellite in orbit above Earth. The satellite has a central body with two rectangular solar panel arrays extended outwards. The Earth's surface is visible below, showing a blue horizon and white clouds. The sky is a deep blue.

**QUESTIONS?**

**Q&A**



